

CALFRESH REQUEST FOR POLICY INTERPRETATION**PI# 18-32**

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete items 1 - 10 on the form. Use a separate form for each policy interpretation request. If additional space is needed, please use the second page. Retain a copy for your records and submit via email to CalFresh-PI@dss.ca.gov.

Please note: the policy interpretation provided is based on the unique set of facts presented and should not be assumed to apply in all scenarios.

1. RESPONSE NEEDED DUE TO: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy/Regulation Interpretation <input type="checkbox"/> QC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: CIV System Programming		5. DATE OF REQUEST: 03/16/2018	NEED RESPONSE BY: 03/23/2018
2. REQUESTOR NAME:		6. COUNTY/ORGANIZATION: Kern DHS	
3. PHONE NO.: EMAIL:		7. SUBJECT: ACL 17-125 and Treatment of VA Income	
4. REGULATION CITE(S): MPP 63-502.2(q), MPP 63-44-11, 63-301.72, 44-111.43		8. REFERENCES: (Include ACL/ACIN, court cases, etc. in references) NOTE: All requests must have a regulation cite(s) and/or a reference(s). ACL 17-125, AC: 06-31, MPP 63-502.2(q), MPP 44-111.23	
9. QUESTION: (INCLUDE SCENARIO IF NEEDED FOR CLARITY):			

ACL 17-125 pg 2 under new rule section it states, "While SB 570 only makes changes to CalWORKs, due to current policy which requires all eligible CalWORKs households to be considered categorically eligible (CE) for CalFresh (pursuant to MPP Section 63-301.72), these payments will also be exempt as income when determining CalFresh eligibility. As a reminder, eligibility factors accepted for CalFresh eligibility without verification for CE households are as follows: resources, income, social security number information, sponsored noncitizen information, and residency. For CalFresh only households, CalFresh eligibility rules still apply and are not impacted by SB 570."

Do changes chaptered in the new State Bill 570 regards to exemption of all benefits and related allowances received from US Veterans Affairs (VA) for education, training, vocation or rehabilitation apply in CalFresh budgets in which CalWORKs is being received?

10. REQUESTOR'S PROPOSED ANSWER:
No, this SB applies only to CalWORKs and does not change how VA income is used in the PA or NA CF budget.
Per ACL 06-31- Simplification options implemented with the FSRI Act of 2002 allowed the following income to be excluded in CalFresh to align with the CalWORKs program: > Department of Rehabilitation Training Allowances.
Neither FSRI nor ACL 06-31 list VA income as income effected by regulation changes on how the income is treated in both the PA and NA CalFresh budget. Furthermore, 63-502.2(q) does not allow the exemption of this income as outlined in MPP 44-111.23 and 111-43. MPP 63-502.2(q) only allows the CalFresh households who are CE to not have to provide any other form of verification that has already been provided to grant the CalWORKs program it does not change how income is treated in the CalFresh budget for household's receiving CalWORKs benefits.

11. STATE POLICY RESPONSE (CFPB USE ONLY):
CDSS concurs with the proposed response that SB 570 "applies only to CalWORKs and does not change how VA income is used in the PA or NA CF budget."

FOR CDSS USE

DATE RECEIVED: 3/21/18	DATE RESPONDED TO COUNTY/ALJ: SV 3/26/18
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